

# Heavy Rail (Rapid Rail)



## DESCRIPTION:

Heavy rail (metro, subway, rapid transit, **or** rapid rail) is an electric railway with the capacity for a heavy volume of traffic. It is characterized by high speeds, rapid acceleration of passenger rail cars, high platform loading, and grade separated rights-of-way from which all other vehicular and foot traffic are excluded.

## SERVICE:

- 170-300 persons per vehicle (one rail car)
- 1,360-96,000 persons per hour
- 20-80 miles per hour
- Trains up to every 90 seconds

## Cost:

- \$1,234,000-\$1,431,000 per vehicle
- \$85-\$180 million per mile to construct\*
- \$5.50-\$14.50 per revenue mile to operate

\* Based on information reported to the FTA from transit project sponsors from across the country for the 2005 Annual Report to Congress on New Starts, and includes San Francisco's BART extension, San Juan's Tren Urbano, and Miami's Metrorail extension



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